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VICE-ADMIRALTY COURT.

Whitehall, March ye 16th, 170½.

S^r

Being directed by an order of Council to send to ye Governors of her Matys plantacons for an acc^t whether the Courts of admiralty there are established by vertue of the power given them by the commission they receive from ye Lords Comm^rs of the admiralty or by vertue of a Clause under the great seal of England impowering them to erect the s^d Courts of admiralty; we send you here inclosed a copy of the said order that you may thereby understand the ground of the enquiry, and accordingly return to us the account demanded with relation to her Maj^ties Colony & Dominion of Virginia under yor Governm^t. So we bid you heartily farewell.

Yo^r very loving friends

Stamford	Wm Blathwayt
Lexington	Jno Pollexfen
Ph: Meadows	Matt Prior.

In obedience to an order of his Ex^cy in Council, we have considered the establishment of the Vice Admiralty Court in this her Matys Colony & Dominion of Virg^a & do find that the s^d Court of Vice admiralty was established here by Commisssion granted to Edwd Hill Esqr Judge of the s^d Court from his Ex^cy Sr Edm^d Andross Kn^t his late Maj^ties Lieu^t & Govr Gen^ll of Virg^a under his hand & seal dated ye 8th day of March 1697 by vertue of a Commission directed to the s^d Sr Edm^d Andros from under ye great seal of the high Court of Admiralty of England dated ye 26th day of June 1697 wch is humbly reported by

Wm Leigh
Miles Cary.

July 15th 1702.

THE OHIO COMPANY.

By Col. Thomas H. Ellis.

Washington Irving, in his *Life of Washington*, referring to the conflicting claims of the English over the French to all that region west of the Alleghany Mountains extending from the Lakes to the Ohio River, and embracing the tributaries of that river, says that a number of the most intelligent and enterprising men of Virginia and Maryland united in a scheme, the object of which was to participate in the valuable trade with the Indians of that region, as well as to obtain a foothold for the English and further